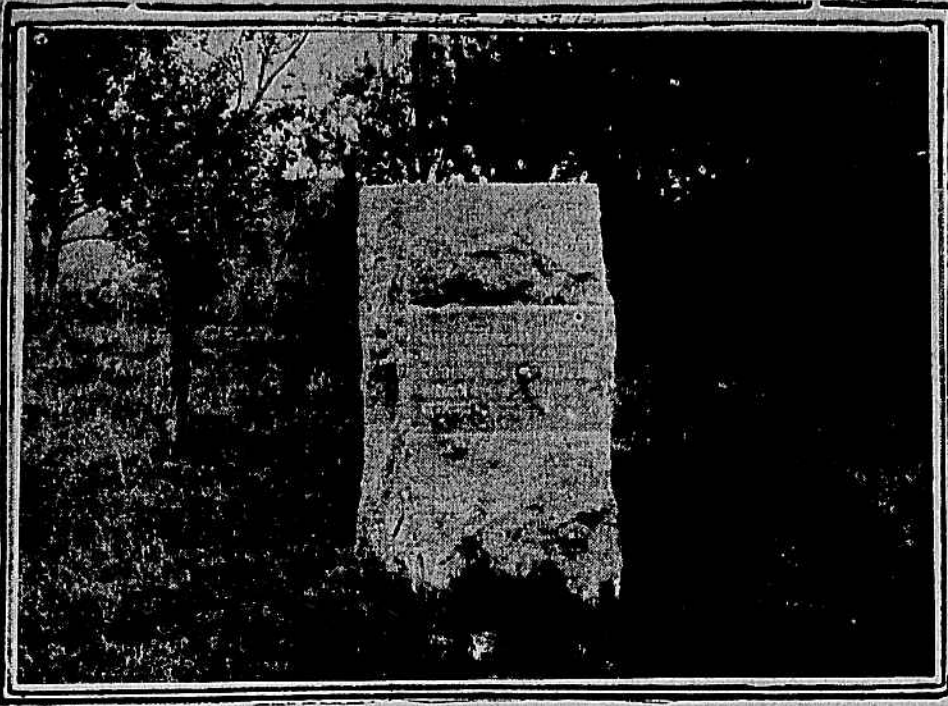
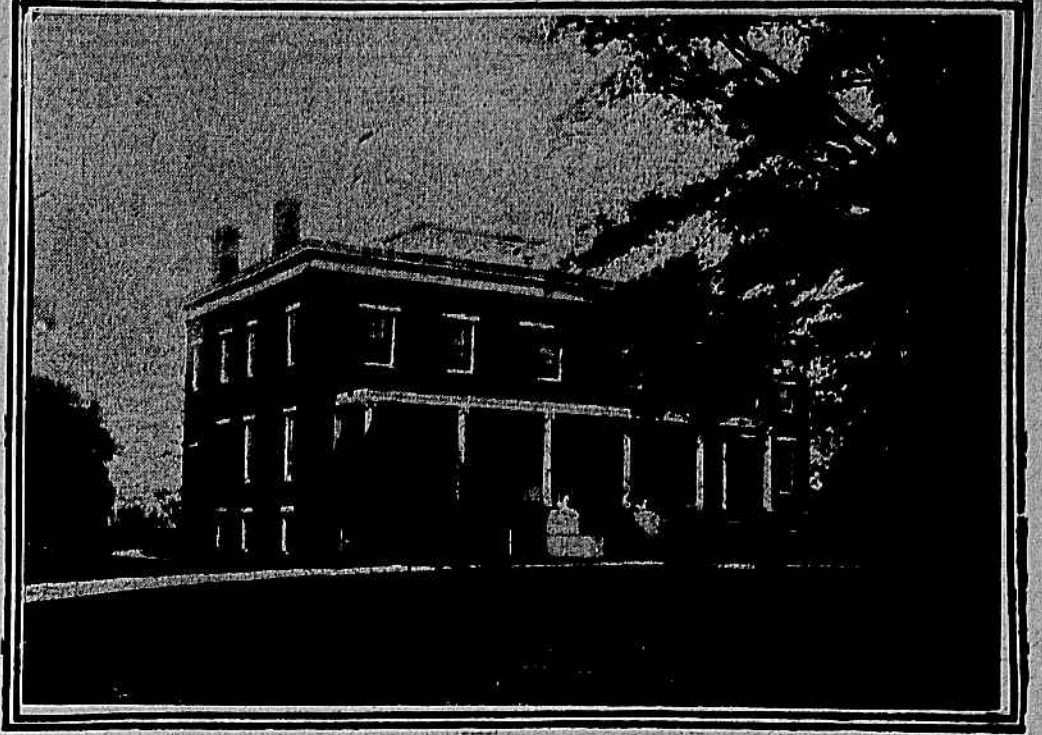


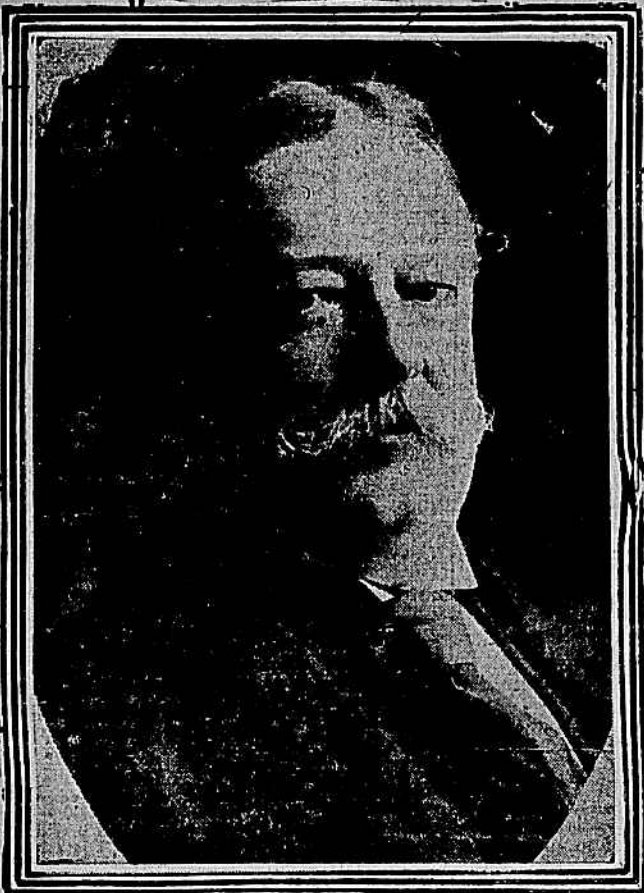
Historic Petersburg is Waiting to Welcome President Taft



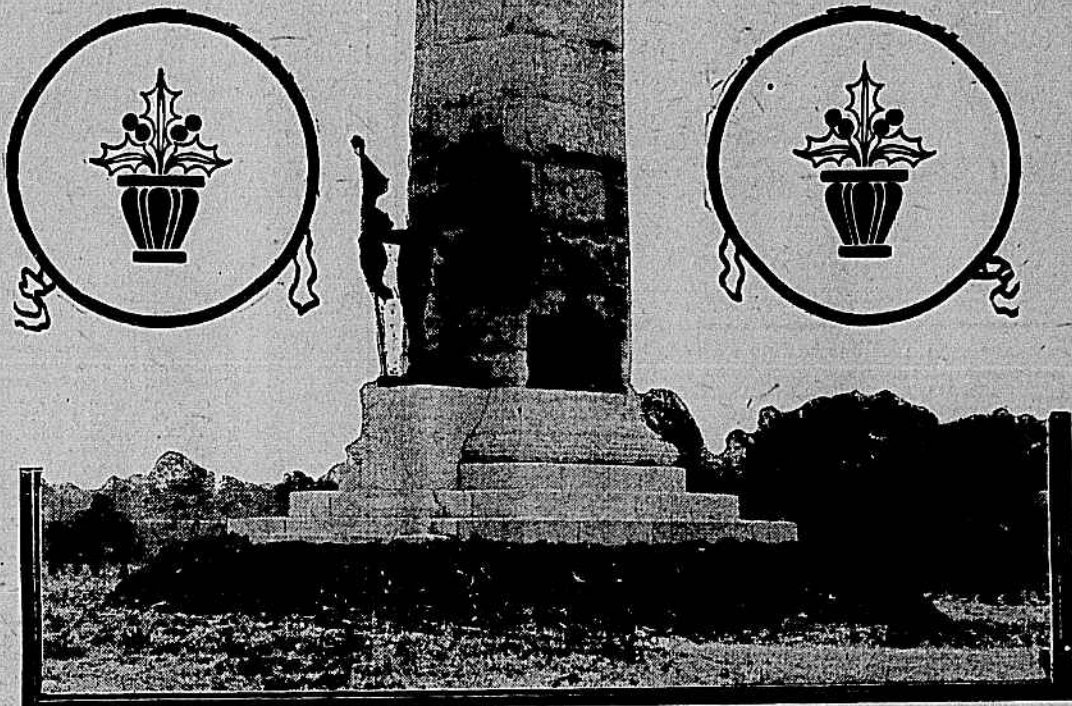
Marker showing the advanced position of the Second Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery at the Battle of the Crater.



HISTORIC CENTRE HILL MANSION, Residence of Charles Hall Davis, where President and Mrs. Taft will be entertained.



PRESIDENT WILLIAM H. TAFT.



Monument to General Hartranft's Third Pennsylvania Division, Ninth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, to be unveiled at Fort Mahone.



MRS. MARY C. DUNLAP, Who will entertain M. Jusserand, the French ambassador, and Madame Jusserand in her beautiful and historic home.

BLUE AND GRAY WILL MEET AT PETERSBURG

Thousands of Pennsylvanians Coming to Unveiling of Monument—Citizens United to Make Day Memorable One in Southland—President Taft Guest of Honor.

Times-Dispatch Bureau, 103 North Sycamore Street, Petersburg, Va., May 15.
The city of Petersburg has appropriated \$5,000 to entertain President William H. Taft, Mrs. Taft and other distinguished personages who will honor the city with their presence on the 19th, the occasion being the dedication and unveiling of a splendid monument erected at Fort Mahone in memory of the dead of General John P. Hartranft's Division of Pennsylvania soldiers. The State has not only borne the expense of this noble tribute to its

sons, but it has gone further in its liberality, and will pay the expenses of the transportation of thousands of its citizens who came and will come to participate in the dedicatory ceremonies.

At the unveiling ceremonies at Fort Mahone on May 19 President Taft will take part, as will also the Governors of Pennsylvania and Virginia, who will be accompanied by their respective staffs, and following the speeches of the two Governors, the President will deliver an address.

The citizens of Petersburg have added to the city's appropriation, contributions to the amount of over \$5,000, to be devoted to the social side of the President's visit. The afternoon and evening of the day will be given over to these features, and as a social function, it will be the most memorable in the annals of the Cockade City.

The social functions will take place at the historic Centre Hill mansion, the residence of Charles Hall Davis, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and on the magnificent lawn surrounding the mansion. An alfresco luncheon will be served to 1,000 guests under the shade of the lawn trees, upon grassy tables decked with growing flowers. In full view of the great luncheon party, President Taft will sit at a table on the porch of the mansion. Governor Stuart will speak to the toast to "Pennsylvania" at the luncheon. Dr. Edwin A. Alderman, of the University of Virginia, will respond to the toast to "Virginia," and William B. McIlwaine to the toast to "Petersburg."

Among other distinguished guests who may respond to toasts will be Admiral Charles D. Sigbee, of the navy; Ambassador Jusserand, General John S. Mosby, of Confederate fame; John S. Wise, of New York; President Johnson, of the Norfolk and Western Railway; and others, all of whom have accepted invitations to be present.

Taft Will Speak.
President Taft will subsequently speak on the lawn north of the mansion, after the guests at the luncheon have passed in review before him through the hallway of the house. Here he will be greeted by 20,000 or 25,000 people, and before him will be witnessed the beautiful scene of 1,000 children arranged in flag formations, representing, respectively, in groups, the American flag, the Confederate flag and the flags of Pennsylvania and Virginia. The children will sing national airs.

The evening will be given over to a reception extended to President and Mrs. Taft and other guests, and many women and men prominent in the social and official life of the State and city will attend. The lawn on which

the luncheon will be given will be illuminated with many colored electric lights, and the whole scene will be one of beauty and inspiration. During the evening a large band will discourse music.

Petersburg is all alive to the great occasion, for which elaborate preparations have been made. The whole city is to put on its holiday attire, the houses decorated and the streets illuminated, and in every way the President and distinguished guests are to be shown the cordial spirit and true hospitality of this noble Virginia town.

Ambassador Jusserand, Madame Jusserand and Admiral Sigbee will be special guests of Mrs. David Dunlop at her beautiful home in Friend Street. They are personal friends of Mrs. Dunlop, and a reception will be given in their honor.

The President will be greeted with a salute of twenty-one guns when he enters Petersburg—the first presidential

salute the city has ever had the opportunity or privilege of giving.

A Striking Feature.
One of the striking features of the great gathering on May 19 will be the friendly comingling of the Blue and the Gray—the veterans who opposed each other on the battlefields of 1861-'65. The Confederate veterans will meet the Northern veterans in cordial spirit, without show of sectional feeling; will participate with them in the dedication of their monument; will have them as guests during their stay in the city; will open their camp hall for their headquarters; will join them in a campfire and make them feel at home, and will be their escort in all their comings and goings, and show their friendship in every possible way.

The veterans and people of Petersburg rejoice in the marks of respect that are being shown to the memory of those who fell in the attempts to capture this devoted city. They are glad to see the handsome monuments and the beautiful markers that are being erected. They look to the time when the memory of the heroes of the

South will be honored in the same way. And they are looking to the time also when the sanguinary fields around Petersburg will be embraced in a grand national battlefield park, wherein beautiful monuments will tell the story to all generations of the heroism and patriotism of Americans, without distinction of sections.

When taps are sounded at Fort Mahone, the site of the Pennsylvania monument, they will be echoed back from Fort Sedgewick, on the old Federal lines. Fort Mahone was a famous Confederate salient, named after General William Mahone. From its fierce fires and its frequent repulses of attacks it was given the name of "Fort Damnation." Opposite this fort, and not far away, on the hostile lines, was Fort Sedgewick, named in honor of a Federal general, and it was given the title of "Fort Hell." Many men fell here, and before each, and it is a beautiful thought that now—forty-four years after their guns were silenced and peace reigns where angry and bloody strife ruled, taps should be echoed and re-echoed between them.

CENTRE HILL MANSION AN ANCIENT LANDMARK

PETERSBURG, VA., May 15.—Centre Hill Mansion, where the people of Petersburg will entertain the President and Mrs. Taft at an alfresco luncheon and lawn fête, on May 19, is now the residence of Charles Hall Davis, president of the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce, but formerly was a part of the extensive plantation known as "Bollingbrook," established while Petersburg was "the outpost of civilization."

"Bollingbrook" was settled by Robert Bolling, a wealthy plantation owner and son of an original colonist, who married Jane Rolfe, a granddaughter of Pocahontas. His property covered almost the entire site of the present city of Petersburg. The estate comprised East Hill, Centre Hill and West Hill, which now form the heart of the city. Originally the Bolling residence was located on East Hill, the other two being planted in tobacco and grain.

When the East Hill residence was destroyed by fire, Robert Bolling built on Centre Hill the house which now stands there, and in which the citizens of Petersburg will honor the Chief Executive and "first lady in the land."

Although the residence has been remodeled four times since its construction, the original colonial lines are preserved, and the outer brick walls are the same as first erected with the exception of a few patches made necessary by the rents from the Federal shells in the siege of the city in 1864. Investigation shows that the roof of the two-story and basement structures was "A-shaped," but later was changed to a flat surface covered with heavy sheet copper. The handsome, white-painted porticos on the north and south of the mansion were evidently built to replace stoops, which were so popular in the colonial style of architecture. That the porticos were added after the structure was some years old is attested by large, broad arches and marble columns over the entrance.

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HARTRANFT MONUMENT A COSTLY MEMORIAL

Shaft Is One of the Most Elaborate and Expensive in Southern Territory—It Commemorates Valor of Northern General and His Men.

PETERSBURG, VA., May 15.—Rising sixty feet in the air, outlined against a smiling Southern sky, and casting its shadow over the hallowed ground around Fort Mahone, the Hartranft monument, to be unveiled by President Taft on May 19, stands as a lasting memorial to the valor, patriotism and daring of thousands of men to whom the sacrifice of life was secondary to upholding principles in which they believed.

The monument is one of the most elaborate, imposing and expensive ever erected in Southern territory by Federal veterans. It was raised by the State of Pennsylvania to commemorate the heroic deeds of General John P. Hartranft, and the Third Division of the Ninth Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, which he commanded during the siege of Petersburg, lasting ten months and more. This division was composed chiefly of Pennsylvania soldiers. The Ninth, commanded by General Burghardt, was the "brag" or "crack" corps of the Federal army in Virginia, and such confidence was reposed in the leader and the men that it operated for some time independently of the Army of the Potomac.

General Hartranft was born in Montgomery, Pa., on December 16, 1830, and was admitted to the bar in his native State in 1859. When the call to arms came in '61, he entered the Federal army as colonel of the Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteers, which command was brigaded with the Twelfth regular infantry and Fifth Massachusetts militia, the brigade being commanded by Col. W. B. Franklin, of the regular army.

At the battle of Vicksburg, where Colonel Hartranft commanded the Fifty-first Pennsylvania Volunteers, in General Ferrero's Division, the Second of the Ninth Army Corps, under General Park, the Pennsylvanians distinguished themselves by gallant conduct under fire and after having temporary command of the First and Third divisions of the corps, was made major-general and permanent commander of the last-named division.

In Many Battles.
Led by General Hartranft, the Third Division participated in pitched battles and breastwork affairs at Bermuda Hundred, Weldon Road, Hatcher's Run, Fort Mahone and Fort Steadman. Besides these engagements, the Third Division figured in a number of minor skirmishes along the line of battle in front of Petersburg.

The most notable battle in which General Hartranft and his gallant men figured was at Fort Steadman, on

March 25, 1865. Here it was that they immortalized themselves, and by converting defeat into victory, made themselves subjects of commendatory general orders from Major-General John G. Gordon and his 100 picked men entered the fort without the discharge of a gun. At sunrise the daring Confederates, flushed with success, started to capture another fortification in the rear of Fort Steadman, whose position commanded the garrison already captured.

This charge on the part of General Gordon was repulsed by the Ninth Corps, and the Third Division, under General Hartranft, delivered a counter-charge, which resulted in the retaking of Fort Steadman and the capture of several thousand prisoners. At sunset the Federal line had been re-established, and the Third Division filled the breach of 100 yards made by the Confederates before sunrise.

Speaking of the conduct of General Hartranft and his men in this battle, Major-General Parke, in General Order No. 3, dated March 25, 1865, said: "To Brig.-Gen. J. P. Hartranft, commanding Third Division, who had charge of the assault, great credit is due, and his division is specially commended for the distinguished success, which their good conduct has met with in this, their first real engagement. The steadiness and courage of the troops are deserving of great praise, and the major-general commanding takes occasion to impress upon the corps the lesson, enticed by the example of their brave comrades that a line broken is not carried, and that by prompt rallying and tenaciously holding the position the enemy may be made to pay dearly for his temerity."

At the close of the war General Hartranft returned to Pennsylvania, and was Attorney-General from 1885 to 1888. He was Governor of Pennsylvania 1872 to 1875, and died October 17, 1890.

On the east and west sides of the monument are inscribed the enlistments, killed, wounded and prisoners of the six Pennsylvania regiments of infantry which served in General Hartranft's division. The names of the places where they fought, bled and shinned are marked on the front of the obelisk. Directly in front of the monument stands a Federal soldier, of heroic size, done in bronze, and holding a banner and a rifle.

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